

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 797

By Travis

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the Bledsoe County Coordinated School Health Program on the occasion of its tenth anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those worthy programs that promote healthy school environments in which children are given the tools to succeed; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary organization is Bledsoe County's Coordinated School Health Program; the program celebrated its tenth anniversary in 2017, and much of its success can be accredited to the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Coordinated School Health (CSH) is an evidenced-based model developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designed to promote healthy school environments; in 2006, Tennessee became the only state in the nation with a legislative mandate and dedicated funding to implement CSH in all school districts; and

WHEREAS, there are eight primary components of CHS: Nutrition, Staff Wellness, Health Education, Physical Activity, Health Services, Healthy School Environment, Community/Family Partners, and Mental Health/School Counseling, all of which address possible barriers to learning for students; and

WHEREAS, Bledsoe County is fortunate to have employed a school nurse in every building since the inception of CSH ten years ago; on average, more than 600 students undergo health screenings in Bledsoe County schools each year; and

WHEREAS, in Bledsoe County, there were 17,081 visits to the nurse this past school year, with nurses administering over 8,000 medications; to help decrease absenteeism due to

influenza, students, faculty, and staff are offered the annual influenza vaccine while at school; and

WHEREAS, through its membership in the National Association of School Nurses and the program Sights for Students, Bledsoe County is able to provide free glasses to students in need, helping them learn at their optimum level; in 2010, Bledsoe County Schools purchased its first AEDs and placed them in every school, and the system also offers free CPR classes to all employees; and

WHEREAS, CSH coordinators often use state or federal grant funds along with resources from community partnerships to provide schools with walking tracks/trails, in-school fitness rooms, and new/updated playgrounds; Bledsoe County has been able to place basketball courts and walking tracks at four schools, and playgrounds have been updated and new equipment added along with the purchase of physical education equipment for every school and the development of staff gyms, all to encourage improved learning through physical activity; and

WHEREAS, during the past ten years, Bledsoe County CSH has brought approximately one million dollars back into the district via health grants and in-kind resources/gifts that have been used to expand local capacity to address school health priorities; and

WHEREAS, Bledsoe County CSH has helped many children both personally and academically during the past ten years, and this outstanding program is worthy of our approbation and commendation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and recognize the Bledsoe County Coordinated School Health Program on the occasion of its tenth anniversary, thank its administrators, employees, and partners for their ongoing commitment to healthy school environments, and wish them much continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.